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# Richmond Times-Dispatch

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WEATHER  
FAIR

PRICE, FIVE CENTS

## U. S. FINANCIERS MAY BE REQUESTED TO AID IN MEXICO

Lansing Leaves for New  
York to Confer With  
Secretary McAdoo.

QUESTION DISCUSSED  
BY PAN-AMERICAN ENVOYS

Carranza Signifies Willingness to  
Discuss Peace With  
Other Leaders.

ASKS RECOGNITION BY U. S.

Authoritative Announcement of Position  
of This Government  
Given Out.

WASHINGTON, August 7.—Secretary Lansing, of the State Department, and Secretary McAdoo, of the Treasury, will confer in New York to-morrow on the Mexican situation.

Secretary Lansing left here to-night, expecting to return on Monday. He said he would meet Mr. McAdoo to-morrow, and that the conference had to do with Mexico, but declined to say what phase of the problem would be talked over.

Mr. Lansing will return Monday.

During the Pan-American conference here, there was considerable discussion of the question of financing any government which might be set up in Mexico, either through a peace conference of the faction leaders, or by direct action of the Pan-American concert. It is known that this subject was put over for future consideration when the conference reconvenes in New York next week.

Undoubtedly American financiers will have to be consulted, and it was suggested here to-night that Secretary McAdoo will be given the duty of sounding them. If this is true, he will have to be acquainted with the whole purpose of the Washington government and the South and Central American powers which join in restoring peace in Mexico. Secretary Lansing's mission, it was inferred, might have to do with this phase of the problem.

IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS

IN MEXICAN SITUATION

The Mexican situation to-day had two important developments.

General Carranza signified his willingness to enter a peace conference, and an authoritative announcement was made of the views of the United States.

The position of this government was officially stated as follows:

That neither Carranza nor any other military faction in Mexico is in control of the country or can be considered as triumphant in the republic.

That the real purpose of the revolution was accomplished a year ago, when Huerta was overthrown, and that the strife since then has been over factional differences, and has not been in reality a revolution.

That it considers General Villa, while financially weakened, still an active element, who must be reckoned with in an adjustment.

That the problem of Cientificos do not enter the problem, because it is considered that the overthrow of Huerta disposed of that element.

FIGHTING CONTINUES  
IN MANY SECTIONS

That the greater portion of Mexico is not at peace, as General Carranza claims, because fighting continues in many sections from Tehuantepec to the Rio Grande and from Vera Cruz to Mazatlan.

That the first problem to be solved in the restoration of peace is to find for Provisional President a man who represents the cause of the original revolution against Huerta, but who does not necessarily represent any of the factions now at war.

General Carranza's brief, filed with the State Department by his American counsel, Charles A. Douglas, not only proposes a peace conference with his adversaries, but practically asks recognition.

It was made clear to-day that the United States does not accept the declarations of any of the military leaders that they are so dominant as to insure peace in Mexico should they be recognized.

Carranza, it is held, cannot be considered in control of the situation any more than other leaders, even though he may have more territory, because Villa's forces and Zapata's bands still are operating.

The Latin-American diplomats are said to share the view that a stable government can be established only by selection of a man who represented the cause of the original revolution against Huerta, and one upon whom the leaders now at war could unite.

FORMAL BRIEF FILED  
ON BEHALF OF CARRANZA

On behalf of General Carranza a formal brief on the Mexican situation was filed with Secretary Lansing to-day, practically asking for political recognition and proposing that Carranza's Washington agents meet any of the other factions in a peace conference.

Carranza's American counsel, Charles A. Douglas, submitted the brief.

"Recognition," says the brief, "while of the greatest aid to peace in Mexico will not immediately make the country tranquil. Some months may be required to restore order generally, but if the work of pacification can be prosecuted under the auspices of a government having the recognition and good-will of the government of this nation, it is reasonable to hope that

(Continued on Second Page.)

## Erie Buries Dead; City of Mourning

Thirteen Funerals of Victims of  
Tuesday's Flood Held  
During Day.

ERIE, PA., August 7.—Thirteen funerals of victims of Tuesday night's flood were held to-day, and Erie was a city of mourning. All regular business was suspended.

The wrecking force was augmented to 2,000 men to-day, while the State Health Department had 200 additional at work with many tons of lime. The sanitary engineers expressed the belief to-day that there was little danger of any epidemic now.

The State police were kept busy to-day controlling sightseers and keeping them from impeding the workmen. Mayor Stern communicated with the officials of the several railroads that enter Erie, and asked that the usual Sunday excursions to Erie be canceled, as the city would be unable to care for visitors, and they would delay the work of cleaning up. The railroads immediately advertised that no excursions to Erie would go out to-morrow from either Buffalo, Pittsburgh or Cleveland.

Occupants of houses near the devastated district to-day were ordered to move until the dwellings had been placed in a sanitary and safe condition. These houses were placarded with warnings to keep out, under the direction of the State health officials.

No more bodies were recovered to-day.

MUCH WORK AHEAD OF WILSON

Giving Attention Almost Entirely to  
International Affairs.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] WINDSOR, VT., August 7.—Work is accumulating upon President Wilson so rapidly that he is planning to return to the White House, but it is probable he will return to Cornish in September. The President, at Harpenden House, is giving his attention to international affairs almost exclusively, despite the fact that a number of questions of domestic policy must be settled in the near future.

Among the matters that will come before him in Washington will be legal aspects of the La Follette seaman's law, the Treasury deficit, conferences on the national defense program, and upon the Eastland disaster with Secretary of Commerce Redfield. It is probable he will return to the capital within a week.

Members of the President's official family to-night denied reports that Miss Margaret Wilson is engaged to be married to Frank E. Compton, of Illinois. They declined to discuss the matter further.

CITY OFFICIALS SUSPENDED

Tennessee Supreme Court Acts in Nashville City Hall Cases.

NASHVILLE, TENN., August 7.—The Tennessee Supreme Court to-day, passing upon petitions for certiorari and supersedeas in three cases involving the suspension of Mayor Hillary E. Howe and Commissioner Robert Elliott, under protest proceedings, pending the final hearing of the ouster proceedings.

In the separate ouster proceedings sought against Commissioner J. D. Alexander, it was held that the flat denying him from acting was void.

In the case involving a receivership for the city, the order granted by the Court of Appeals superseding the appointment of a receiver was allowed to stand.

Chancellor Allison to-day vacated his order appointing a receiver for the city.

NEW WAR GAME PLANNED

Atlantic Fleet Will Be Called Upon to  
Protect Atlantic Seaboard.

NEWPORT, R. I., August 7.—The Atlantic Fleet is again to be put to the test of protecting the Eastern seaboard from invasion by a supposed foreign fleet. Admiral Frank E. Fletcher, its commander, announced to-night that officers of the Naval War College were at work mapping out the probable maneuvers of another war game to take place after the target practice in Narragansett Bay next fall.

According to Admiral Fletcher, the maneuvers will be based on lessons derived from the mimic war of last June, when the "enemy" fleet accomplished its purpose in effecting a landing on the shores of Chesapeake Bay. As in the previous war game, it is expected that the Atlantic Fleet will be called upon to protect the coast from Eastport, Me., to Hatteras.

LINER ST. LOUIS SAILS

Baggage of Passengers in Carefully  
Searched for Bombs.

NEW YORK, August 7.—The baggage of each of the 670 passengers who left here for Liverpool aboard the American liner St. Louis to-day was carefully searched for bombs or other explosives. The passenger list was the largest the liner has carried in a long time, every berth but one being occupied.

Three Americans were among the 119 passengers sailing for Glasgow on the Cameronia, which carried a large cargo of war supplies.

WALSH ENTERS RACE

Third-Term Candidate for Governor on  
Democratic Ticket.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] BOSTON, August 7.—Governor David I. Walsh gave out his long-delayed statement to-night, saying he would be a third-term candidate for Governor on the Democratic ticket. He said that he had delayed on account of the strain of office on his health, but the solicitation of his friends had been so great that he had decided to run for a third term.

## CAME TO VIRGINIA FOR CITY MANAGER

Charles E. Ashburner, of Staunton, Is Making Good in Springfield.

HOW MANAGER-PLAN WORKS

Places Direct Responsibility, and  
Keeps City Within Its  
Income.

BY EDGAR MORRIS,  
Of the Springfield Daily News. SPRINGFIELD, O., August 7.—Springfield, O., a city of 60,000 inhabitants, is now well into her second year with the commission manager form of government. Following a period of unrest existing in the city, in which it was declared that the old Federal form of government in which a Mayor and Council of ten rulers was obsolete, the voters adopted the new charter August 26, 1913. It became effective January 1, 1914.

The commission manager form of government, which seeks to have the city's business operated just like that of a large corporation, is now being given a thorough tryout. A commission of five men is elected by the people, and this commission, which is the legislative end of the government, selects the city manager, who is the executive head. The salary of the manager is fixed by the commission. The manager serves at the will of the commission.

The chief feature of the new form of government is that of a small legislative body. Formerly Springfield had a Council of ten men, elected three at large and seven from wards. Under that plan, no voter had a hand in the selection of more than three Councilmen. Under the new plan, every voter may take part in the selection of all the commissioners.

SEPARATES LEGISLATIVE AND  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS

Another striking feature of the new plan is the entire separation of the legislative and executive departments. Each commissioner has an equal voice in determining the policy of the city, irrespective of the department that may be affected, but the commissioner cannot individually interfere in the management of any executive department. It is the duty of the city manager, with his assistants, to take care of the executive end. The city commission is the brain that conceives, and the city manager is the arm that executes.

The aim is to have the city operated just like any big business is operated, that is, have a board of directors who select their manager. Every person is familiar with the operation of a large manufacturing institution.

Concerning the duty of the commission, the charter says:

"All of the powers of the city, except such as are vested in the board of education and the judge of the police court, and except as otherwise provided by this charter or by the Constitution of the State, are hereby vested in the city commission; and, except as otherwise provided by this charter or by the Constitution of the State, the city commission may by ordinance or resolution prescribe the manner in which any power of the city shall be exercised. In the absence of any such provision as to power, such power shall be exercised in the manner now or hereafter prescribed by the general laws of the State applicable to municipalities."

COMMISSIONERS CHOSEN  
ON NONPARTISAN BALLOT

The city commissioners are elected on a nonpartisan ballot. Every effort possible has been made to eliminate politics. The candidates are chosen at a primary to be held in August, every two years, and the elections are held in November. It is provided in the charter that no candidate for office of city commission shall make any personal canvass among the voters to secure either nomination or election. He may cause notice of his candidacy to be published in newspapers. Names are placed on the ballots by petition. The candidate may not personally circulate a petition or by writing or otherwise solicit any one to support him or vote for him. Promises in order to secure election are prohibited. Any violation of these provisions disqualifies the candidate.

The members of the commission receive salaries of \$500 a year each, and are required to give bond in the sum of \$10,000 each.

The commissioners are required to meet once each week. After election they organize by electing one of their members president, and he is also known as the Mayor. The Mayor is so designated for the purpose of signing ordinances.

The city commission appropriates money and directs the expenditures.

TAX BUDGET COMMISSION  
FIXES CITY'S INCOME

The taxes of the city are levied by a tax budget commission, which is composed of the county auditor, the county treasurer and the county prosecutor. No city official has any hand in the final fixing of the levy. The city commission arranges the budget, making known the amount of money that will be required to operate the city for the coming year, and the tax budget commission, basing its work on this proposed budget, fixes the levy. Sometimes the city gets what it asks and sometimes it does not.

The city commission determines the character of improvements, and it is up to the city manager to see that they are carried out properly.

The old party primary system has been cast aside. Under the old plan of government, nominations were made at party primaries, and every two years the city had to go through heated political campaigns, in which charges of corruption and the like were made. This was one of the reasons

(Continued on Ninth Page.)

SOUTHERN RAILWAY'S VACATION

Excursion, August 10, to Asheville, Lake

Toxaway, etc. See display ad, page 9.

## COURTHOUSE RING ALLEGED BY POWELL

Charges Against Judge R. H. L.  
Chichester to Be Heard  
To-Morrow.

SITS IN FREDERICKSBURG

Committee From House of Delegates  
Will Examine Many  
Witnesses.

To determine whether Samuel P. Powell, lawyer and legislator, fired a cowardly shot at the character of a member of the Virginia judiciary or rendered a signal service to the Commonwealth by exposing a corrupt judge, a court created by the House of Delegates will be convened in Fredericksburg to-morrow to hear and pass upon the evidence that will be offered to sustain the grave allegations with which the accuser has branded Judge R. H. L. Chichester, of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, recreant to his oath and guilty of misfeasance and malfeasance in office.

The special committee appointed by Speaker Edwin P. Cox consists of Walter Tansill Oliver, of Fairfax, chairman; John W. Stephenson, of Bath; V. Barley, of Bontelourt; J. E. Spatig, of Brunswick, and T. C. Collins, of King William. Fraught with portentous meaning will be the verdict rendered by this select court to the next Legislature. Substantiation of a considerable part of the many charges made by the Spotsylvania delegate will mean the impeachment of Judge Chichester, his removal from the bench, his disgrace and shame. Vindication for the accused jurist must bring upon his accuser the contumely and scorn of the people of Virginia.

DRAMATIC SCENE WHEN  
CHARGES WERE LAUNCHED

It was on a gray day in last March, in the closing minutes of the morning session, that Delegate Powell, of Spotsylvania County, launched his denunciation of Judge Chichester. The utterances of the speaker created a profound sensation. His attack upon the character of the jurist was apparently not premeditated, but an emotional outburst provoked by the heckling to which he was being subjected by several members while he had the floor and was speaking on a proposed amendment to the tax bill creating local boards of review.

Delegate Powell was an anti-segregationist in the memorable struggle over the adoption of the new tax code. He was arguing against the provision subsequently adopted which vests circuit and corporation court judges with authority to appoint the local boards of review. His arguments had been repeatedly challenged by his opponents on the segregationist side, and the member from Spotsylvania was apparently laboring under excitement, when he burst forth suddenly with his accusations.

"I know from my own personal observation and experience," he said, "that it is not safe to intrust some members of the judiciary with this power. I know that some of them would use it to serve their own political purposes."

POWELL REITERATES  
CHARGE AGAINST CHICHESTER

The sixty-odd members, who had been giving but listless attention to the speech of the member from Spotsylvania, now turned toward him glances that bespoke awakened interest, attracted by his impassioned tones.

"I know that the judge in my own circuit, the Fifteenth, is in the habit of packing county boards," was the next explosive utterance of Mr. Powell.

The sixty-odd members sat for an instant as if petrified, gazing with astonishment upon the accuser. The next moment half a dozen members leaped to their feet. A vocal pandemonium ensued. While the Speaker shouted in stentorian voice for order, Judge Martin Williams, Democratic floor leader, left his seat, striding forward into the aisle in front of the Speaker's chair. Facing Mr. Powell, Judge Williams demanded:

"Do we understand the gentleman from Spotsylvania to say that the judge of his circuit has been guilty of packing electoral boards?"

The commotion subsided instantly. Almost breathless silence prevailed. In more subdued tones, Delegate Powell, a grim smile on his youthful-looking face, replied, very slowly and deliberately:

"That is exactly what I said, or what I meant, anyway. I want to say, too,

(Continued on Sixth Page.)

## Will Use His Influence With Mexican Leaders



Major-General Hugh L. Scott

CHICAGO, August 7.—Major-General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the United States Army, to-day halted a few hours in Chicago on his way from Washington to El Paso, Tex., and said he was confident of his ability to do much in bringing the warring factions of the Southern republic into agreement.

"I do not want to say anything about success," he said, "but I feel optimistic."

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## RUSSIANS NOT YET OUT OF NET SPREAD TO ENTRAP THEM

Remain Close to Warsaw to  
Contest Effort of Enemy  
to Cross Vistula.

RESISTANCE REPORTED  
BROKEN BY GERMANS

Very Little Change in Other Sections  
of the Polish  
Salient.

LIVELY FIGHTING IN WEST

Fall of Gorizia, Before Italians, Is  
Said to Be Imminent.

Safety of Russians  
Is Not Yet Assured

THAT the armies of Grand Duke

Nicholas, after evacuating Warsaw in an orderly manner, are not yet out of the most sacred by the Germans to cut off their escape to the eastward is indicated in Russian official reports, in which it is said a large part of the Russian army remained close to the Polish capital to contest any effort of the Germans to cross the Vistula in pursuit.

In the meantime, the Germans north of the Polish capital who are investing the Russian fortress of Novogorodsk, which has been left to its own resources, have penetrated as far as the Serebry Riva, while to the southeast of Warsaw, between the Bug and the Vistula, the Germans assert they have forced the Russians to evacuate their positions near Ruskovola.

On the northern end of the eastern battle front Petrograd claims the Germans have received a check in their enveloping movement in the region of Riga, the Baltic capital, where the Russians say the invaders have been driven back on Mitau. Petrograd also intimates that the Germans for the time being have abandoned their efforts in the direction of Riga and are turning their attention to stem a Russian flanking movement from the direction of Ponevosh. The evacuation of Riga by the civil population, however, continues apace.

In France a spirited engagement between the Germans and French with hand grenades in the Argonne forest is announced in a French official communication, which also reports fighting with hand grenades and bombs in the vicinity of Souchez and artillery duels in the region of Trancy-le-Yul and Berry-au-Bac.